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In view of *Appeal Brief* filed on 10 August 2010 and an authorization for this Examiner's Amendment given in a telephone interview with Mike Bentley on 10 November 2009, the claimed subject matters are thus distinctly pointed out as patentable features to place the application in the condition for allowance.

## Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Allen Wood (Reg. No. 28,134) on 1 September 2010.

This application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Replace claim 1 as follows.

## Claim 1:

A secret file access authorization system with fingerprint limitation, comprising:

an authorization server provided with an authorization module, which provides a
fingerprint template and an authorization secret key, the authorization module including a
password fingerprint unit, an environment fingerprint sampling unit, and a time fingerprint

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sampling unit, which are set in parallel, as well as an authorization unit, wherein the environment finderprint can only be certified for a designated hardware environment:

an encryption server provided with an encryption module, which generates a decryption secret key by accepting the authorization secret key provided by the authorization module, and produces encrypted secret files by encrypting secret files to be encrypted:

a certification server provided with a certification module, which accepts the fingerprint template provided by the authorization module, accepts the decryption secret key provided by the encryption module and the authorization secret key claiming certification that is sent by a client, and judges and confirms by providing a certified decryption secret key; and

at least one client machine, each of which is provided with a user module, which embeds a kernel encryption/decryption unit into a corresponding operation system kernel of the client, accepts the authorization secret key provided by the authorization module and the decryption secret key provided by the encryption module, sends the claiming of certification respectively to the certification module, opens the encryption/decryption unit with a certified authorization secret key and the certified decryption secret key which is returned after the certification module makes the certification, and reads/writes the encrypted secret files

## Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1 - 61 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The above mentioned claims are allowable over prior arts because the CPA (Cited Prior Art) of record fails to teach or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations recited in claims 1 (& associated dependent claims).

Claims 1 – 61 are allowable in light of the Appeal Brief and in light of the prior art made of record and Examiner Amendment

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LONGBIT CHAI whose telephone number is (571)272-3788. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00bm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William R. Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Longbit Chai/

Primary Patent Examiner Art Unit 2431 9/27/2010